EXHIBIT A

LAW OFFICES OF HECTOR I. RODRIGUEZ

ATTORNEY AT LAW

ATTORNEY ID: 020851982

353 LIVINGSTON AVENUE

NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY 08901

(732) 828-1333

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF, FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRE

FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRE AND LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES, H/W

PLAINTIFFS,

VS.

WALMART STORES., INC, SAM'S CLUB JOHN DOES 1-10 (NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN) AND ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10 (NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN),

DEFENDANTS.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION
MIDDLESEX COUNTY

DOCKET NO.:

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRE and LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES residing at 202 Dilion Court, Apt-2 in the Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, by way of Complaint against the Defendants say:

FIRST COUNT

- 1. At all times relevant to the matter set forth herein, Defendant, Walmart Stores

 Inc., Sam's Club JOHN DOE 1-10 and ABC Corporations 1-10 ., owned or
 leased and/or managed the premises located at 883 US-1- South, Edison, New

 Jersey known as the "premises."
- 2. At all times mentioned herein and prior thereto, Defendant Walmart Stores Inc and/or Sam's Club were responsible individually and/or jointly or severally, or by

their agents, servants, and/or employees, for the ownership, design, construction, repair, operation, control, management, inspection, maintenance, and/or supervision of the aforesaid property located at 883 US-1 South, Edison, New Jersey, together with its aisle(s), stairs, sidewalk, walkways, passageways and appurtenances thereto.

- 3. At all times mentioned herein and prior thereto, the defendants, **JOHN DOES** (1-100), are fictional defendants designated as other corporations, partnerships, proprietorship, or other business entities responsible, individually and/or jointly or severally, or by their agents, servants and/or employees, for the ownership, design, construction, repair, operation, control, management, inspection, maintenance, and/or supervision of the aforesaid property located at **883 US-1 South, Edison New Jersey**, together with its aisle(s), stairs, sidewalks, walkways, passageways and appurtenances thereto.
- 4. At all times mentioned herein and prior thereto, the defendants, ABC CORPORATIONS (1-10), are fictional defendants designated as other corporations, partnerships, proprietorship, or other business entities responsible, individually and/or jointly or severally, or by their agents, servants and/or employees, for the ownership, design, construction, repair, operation, control, management, inspection, maintenance, and/or supervision of the aforesaid property located at 883 US-1 South, Edison, New Jersey, together with its aisle(s), stairs, sidewalks, walkways, passageways and appurtenances thereto.

- 5. On or about **December 18, 2016**, plaintiff **FELIPE BUSTILLO-COLINDRE**, was shopping at the Walmart Stores Inc, and/or Sam's Club in the produce section when he slipped and fell on grapes scattered on the floor at the premises of **Walmart Stores Inc. and/or Sam's Club located** at **883 US-1 South in Edison**, **New Jersey**, which defendants owned, designed, constructed, repaired., operated, controlled, managed, inspected, maintained, cleaned and/or supervised together with its aisle(s), stairs, sidewalks, walkways, passages, and appurtenances thereto.
- 6. The dangerous and defective condition of the premises at which Plaintiff fell, existed at the time of his incident, had existed for an appreciable time, and constituted an unreasonable risk of harm to the person, including Plaintiff by any means and no warning or caution signs were posted at any place in the aisle or elsewhere respecting the dangerous and defective condition.
- 7. The dangerous and defective condition constituted a nuisance with respect to members of the public, including Plaintiff, lawfully walking through the aisleway.
- 8. At all times mentioned herein and prior thereto, the defendant had a duty to individuals, including Plaintiff, to operate, construct, repair, design, clean and maintain the premises including the aisles in a reasonable safe condition for the use of individuals walking up and down the aisles.
- 9. At the same time and place, the defendant by and through themselves. their agents, servants and employees were careless, reckless and negligent in that they:

- a. Failed to properly design, construct, repair, operated, control, manage, inspect, maintain, clean and/or supervise the aforesaid premises, their hallways, stairs, aisle(s), sidewalks, walkways, passageways.
- b. Failed to properly design, construct, repair, operate, control manage, inspect maintain, clean and/or supervise the aforesaid premises, within the premises in conformity with the Basic National Building Code, National Bureau of Standards, or the NFIPA Life Safety Code:
- c. Failed to keep; the premises, and its stairs, hallways, aisle(s), driveway and sidewalks in a reasonably safe condition;
- d. Failed to exercise reasonable care for the safety of the Plaintiff.
- e. Allowed a nuisance to exist on the premises;
- f. Failed to provide proper supervision to Plaintiff while lawfully on the premise;
- g. Were otherwise careless and/or negligent.
- 10. As a direct and proximate result of the carelessness and negligence of the Defendants, the Plaintiff was caused to fall and sustained severe, painful disabling, and permanent injuries to his body, which injuries necessitated his obtaining medical treatment, he was compelled and shall in the future be compelled to expend large sum of money for medical care and attention, as well as endure great physical and emotional pain, suffering disability, stress, anxiety, depression, inconvenience, and distress; he is prevented from pursuing and enjoying his usual family activities.

attending to his duties and chores and from assuming employment and his earning power has been materially and adversely affected; and he was otherwise damaged.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, FELIPE BUSTILLO-COLINDRES, hereby demands judgment against the Defendants, WALMART STORES INC, SAM'S CLUB, JOHN DOE 1-10 and ABC CORPORATION 1-10., for injuries, medical bills, damages, interest, attorney fees, cost of suit and such other further relief as the court deem just and appropriate.

SECOND COUNT

- The plaintiff LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES, repeats each and every allegation contained the first, second count as if set forth more fully herein at length herein and makes the same part hereof.
- 2. At the time of the accident as aforesaid and to the present time, the plaintiff LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES was and is the wife of the plaintiff, FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRES and as such, is entitled to his love, services and consortium, all of which she has been deprived due to the negligence of the Defendants Walmart's Stores Inc, Sam's Club JOHN DOE 1-10 (representing unknown persons), and ABC Corporation 1-10 (representing presently unknown corporations).

H WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LIDIA L. MENOJAL REYES, hereby demands judgment against the Defendants, WALMART STORES INC, SAM'S CLUB, JOHN DOE 1-10 and ABC CORPORATION 1-10 ., for injuries, medical bills, damages, interest, attorney fees, cost of suit and such other further relief as the court deem just and appropriate.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that HECTOR I. RODRIGUEZ, ESQ. is hereby designated as trial counsel on behalf of the Plaintiff in the within matter pursuant to Rule 4:25-4.

DEMAND FOR PLEADINGS/DISCOVERY

TAKE NOTICE THAT the undersigned attorney, counsel for the plaintiff, hereby demands pursuant to Rules 1:5-1(A), 4:17-1, 4:17-4(C, that each party herein provide any and all such pleadings and answered to interrogatories received from any party including any documents, papers and other material referred to herein, upon the undersigned attorney, and answer form C and form C(2) Interrogatories of Appendix II of the N.J rules of the court; and TAKE NOTICE this demands is continuing.

DEMAND FOR INSURANCE INFORMATION

Pursuant to R. 4:10-2(b) state whether there are any insurance agreement or policies under which any person or firm carrying on an insurance business may be entered in this action or to indemnify or reimburse for payment made to satisfy the judgment.

Attached a copy of each insurance policy or in the alternative state:

- a. Name and address or insurer;
- b. Policy name;
- c. Date of inception and expiration of coverage;
- d. Names and addresses of all persons insured thereunder;
- e. Name and address of person who has custody and possession of policy.

JURY DEMAND

The plaintiffs, **FELIPE BUSTILLO-COLINDRES** and **LIDIA L. MEMOCAL-REYES**, hereby demand a trial by jury on all the triable issues of this complaint., pursuant to Rule31:8-2(B) and Rule 4:35-1(A).

CERTIFICATION OF NON-PENDENCY

Pursuant to Rule 4:5-1 I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge. The above captioned matter is not the subject of any other pending action in any Court or of a pending arbitration proceeding. I hereby certify that o other action or arbitration is being contemplated by the plaintiff. Other than the parties set forth in this pleading, I know of no other parties that should be joined in the above action.

HECTOR I. ROPRIGUEZ, ESQ.

Dated: December 17, 2018

Civil Case Information Statement

Case Details: MIDDLESEX | Civil Part Docket# L-008410-18

Case Caption: COLINDRE FELIPE VS WALMART

Case Type: AUTO NEGLIGENCE-PERSONAL INJURY (NON-

STORES, INC. VERBAL THRESHOLD)

Case Initiation Date: 12/17/2018 Document Type: Complaint with Jury Demand

Attorney Name: HECTOR I RODRIGUEZ

Jury Demand: YES - 6 JURORS

Firm Name: HECTOR RODRIGUEZ

Hurricane Sandy related? NO

Address: 353 LIVINGSTON AVENUE Is this a professional malpractice case? NO

NEW BRUNSWICK NJ 08901 Related cases pending: NO Phone: If yes, list docket numbers:

Name of Party: PLAINTIFF: COLINDRE, FELIPE, B Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same

Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company transaction or occurrence)? NO

(if known): Unknown

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE

CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? NO

If yes, is that relationship:

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? NO

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? YES

If yes, for what language:

SPANISH, SPANISH

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with *Rule* 1:38-7(b)

12/17/2018 Dated /s/ HECTOR I RODRIGUEZ Signed

EXHIBIT B

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Four Century Drive | Suite 350 Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Tel.: 973.734.3200 Fax: 973.734.3201

Email: npeters@darcambal.com

By: Nada M. Peters, Esq. (NJ Att. Id: 027942004)

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.)

and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRE AND LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES, H/W,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

WALMART STORES, INC., SAM'S CLUB and JOHN DOES 1-10 (NAMES BEING FICTITIUOUS AND UNKNOWN) AND ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10 (NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN),

Defendant(s).

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION
MIDDLESEX COUNTY

DOCKET NO.: MID-L-008410-18

CIVIL ACTION

ANSWER TO COMPLAINT,
AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, JURY
DEMAND, DEMAND FOR
RESPONSES TO
INTERROGATORIES, DEMAND
FOR STATEMENT OF DAMAGES
AND CERTIFICATION
PURSUANT TO R. 4:5-1(b)(2)

Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club) (hereinafter referred to as "Defendants"), by way of Answer to the Complaint of Plaintiffs, Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Menocal Reyes ('Plaintiffs"), by and through its attorneys, d'Arcambal Ousley & Cuyler Burk, LLP, says:

FIRST COUNT

1. Defendants admit only that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP operates a retail store located at 883 US-1, Edison, New Jersey. Except as herein specifically admitted, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the First Count of the Complaint.

- 2. Defendants admit only that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP operates a retail store located at 883 US-1, Edison, New Jersey. Except as herein specifically admitted, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 3. Defendants deny that they have knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truthfulness of the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 4. Defendants deny that they have knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truthfulness of the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 5. Defendants admit only that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP operates a retail store located at 883 US-1, Edison, New Jersey and that on or about December 18, 2016, Plaintiff was present at that retail store. Except as herein specifically admitted, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 6. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 7. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 8. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 9. (a-g) Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 9 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 10. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the First Count of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club), deny that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested in the Complaint, and request that the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice, and that Defendants be awarded attorneys' fees, costs of suit and such other relief as the Court deems just.

SECOND COUNT

- 1. Defendants repeat and reiterate their responses to the allegations contained in the First Count of the Complaint as if set forth herein at length.
- 2. To the extent the allegations of paragraph 2 of the Second Count of the Complaint are narrative and/or assert legal conclusions, no response is required thereto and the allegations are denied. To the extent the allegations purport to impute liability to Defendants, they are denied.

WHEREFORE, Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club), deny that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested in the Complaint, and request that the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice, and that Defendants be awarded attorneys' fees, costs of suit and such other relief as the Court deems just.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries and damages claimed are the result of the sole negligence of the Plaintiff.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries and damages claimed are the result of the contributory negligence of the Plaintiff, which negligence is greater than that of Defendants, or alternatively, Plaintiff's damages, if any, are reduced by the percentage of Plaintiff's comparative negligence and the Comparative Negligence Act, *N.J.S.A.* § 2A:15-5.1, *et seq.*

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries and damages claimed are the result of the negligence of third parties over which Defendants have no control.

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to set forth a cause of action upon which relief may be granted and Defendants reserve the right to move before or at the time of trial to dismiss same.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred or otherwise reduced by operation of the doctrine of avoidable consequences.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred or otherwise reduced by operation of the doctrine of mitigation of damages.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff assumed the risk and was fully cognizant of any and all circumstances surrounding the alleged incident.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants did not proximately cause any damage to Plaintiff.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants deny that they were negligent in any way.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants did not breach any duty owed to Plaintiff.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The alleged injuries and damages complained of by Plaintiff were due to unavoidable circumstances and causes beyond the control or fault of Defendants.

TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

At all times relevant, Defendants complied with all applicable laws, regulations and standards.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint is subject to dismissal for insufficient service of process on Defendants.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's injuries and damages, if any, were proximately caused by intervening, superseding causes, and not by Defendants' negligence.

FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants are entitled to a credit or set-off with respect to any collateral payments made to

Plaintiff for injuries allegedly incurred pursuant to N.J.S.A. § 2A:15-97, including but not limited

to, any medical bills or costs paid or reduced by health insurance coverage.

SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants reserve the right to amend their answer and/or assert additional defenses

and/or supplement, alter and/or change their answer upon revelation of more definite facts by

Plaintiff in completion of further discovery.

WHEREFORE, Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.)

and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club), deny that Plaintiffs are entitled

to the relief requested in the Complaint, and request that the Complaint be dismissed with

prejudice, and that Defendants be awarded attorneys' fees, costs of suit and such other relief as

the Court deems just.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants,

Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP

(improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: January 24, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters, Esq.

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JURY DEMAND

Take notice that Defendants hereby demands a trial by a jury as to all matters at issue.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: January 24, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters, Esq.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Take notice that pursuant to \underline{R} . 4:5-1(c), Nada M. Peters, Esq. is hereby designated as trial counsel.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: January 24, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters, Esq.

DEMAND FOR RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES

Pursuant to <u>R.</u> 4:17-1(b)(2), Defendants hereby demand that Plaintiff provide completed and responsive answers to Form A Interrogatories within the time frame set forth under the rules. Additionally, Defendants reserve their right to serve ten Supplemental Interrogatories.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: January 24, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters
Nada M. Peters, Esq.

DEMAND FOR STATEMENT OF DAMAGES

Pursuant to \underline{R} . 4:5-2, Defendants hereby demand that Plaintiff serve a Statement of Damages upon undersigned counsel within five (5) days hereof.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Wal-Mart Stores East, LP (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: January 24, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters
Nada M. Peters, Esq.

MID-L-008410-18 01/24/2019 11:16:26 AM Pg 9 of 10 Trans ID: LCV2019147398 Case 2:19-cv-04943-SRC-CLW Document 1-1 Filed 02/07/19 Page 19 of 35 PageID: 24

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1(b)(2)

I hereby certify on this date that I know of no other action pending in any court or any

pending arbitration proceeding in which the subject matter of the present litigation is also in

dispute. I further certify that I know of no contemplated action or arbitration proceeding which

would involve the subject matter of the present litigation.

I hereby certify that I do not know of any non-party that should be joined in this action.

Dated: January 24, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have caused the within Answer to be electronically filed through the Judiciary's ECourt application with the Superior Court, Middlesex County, New Jersey, and that a copy of this pleading has been served electronically upon the following counsel and a courtesy copy has also been submitted to counsel via First Class Mail:

Hector I. Rodriguez, Esq.
Law Offices of Hector I. Rodriguez
353 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08904
Phone: 732-828-1333
Attorney for Plaintiffs,
Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Menocal Reyes

Dated: January 24, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters, Esq.

Civil Case Information Statement

Case Details: MIDDLESEX | Civil Part Docket# L-008410-18

Case Caption: COLINDRE FELIPE VS WALMART

STORES, INC.

Case Initiation Date: 12/17/2018

Attorney Name: NADA MAALOUF PETERS

Firm Name: D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK LLP

Address: PARSIPPANY CORPORATE CTR FOUR

CENTURY DR, STE 350 PARSIPPANY NJ 07054-4663

Phone:

Name of Party: DEFENDANT : WALMART STORES, INC.
Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company

(if known): None

Case Type: PERSONAL INJURY

Document Type: Answer W/Jury Demand

Jury Demand: YES - 6 JURORS
Hurricane Sandy related? NO

Is this a professional malpractice case? NO

Related cases pending: NO If yes, list docket numbers:

Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same

transaction or occurrence)? NO

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE

CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? NO

If yes, is that relationship:

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? NO

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? YES

If yes, for what language:

SPANISH, SPANISH,

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with *Rule* 1:38-7(b)

01/24/2019 Dated /s/ NADA MAALOUF PETERS Signed

EXHIBIT C

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Four Century Drive | Suite 350 Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Tel.: 973.734.3200 Fax: 973.734.3201

Email: npeters@darcambal.com

By: Nada M. Peters, Esq. (NJ Att. Id: 027942004)

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.)

and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRE AND LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES, H/W,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

WALMART STORES, INC., SAM'S CLUB and JOHN DOES 1-10 (NAMES BEING FICTITIUOUS AND UNKNOWN) AND ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10 (NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN),

Defendant(s).

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION MIDDLESEX COUNTY

DOCKET NO.: MID-L-008410-18

CIVIL ACTION

FIRST AMENDED ANSWER TO COMPLAINT, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, JURY DEMAND, DEMAND FOR RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES, DEMAND FOR STATEMENT OF DAMAGES AND CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO R. 4:5-1(b)(2)

Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club) (hereinafter referred to as "Defendants"), by way of their First Amended Answer to the Complaint of Plaintiffs, Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Menocal Reyes ('Plaintiffs"), by and through its attorneys, d'Arcambal Ousley & Cuyler Burk, LLP, says:

FIRST COUNT

1. Defendants admit only that Sam's East, Inc. operates a retail store located at 883 US-1, Edison, New Jersey. Except as herein specifically admitted, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the First Count of the Complaint.

- 2. Defendants admit only that Sam's East, Inc. operates a retail store located at 883 US-1, Edison, New Jersey. Except as herein specifically admitted, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 3. Defendants deny that they have knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truthfulness of the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 4. Defendants deny that they have knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truthfulness of the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 5. Defendants admit only that Sam's East, Inc. operates a retail store located at 883 US-1, Edison, New Jersey and that on or about December 18, 2016, Plaintiff was present at that retail store. Except as herein specifically admitted, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 6. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 7. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 8. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 9. (a-g) Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 9 of the First Count of the Complaint.
- 10. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the First Count of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club), deny that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested in the Complaint, and request that the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice, and that Defendants be awarded attorneys' fees, costs of suit and such other relief as the Court deems just.

SECOND COUNT

- Defendants repeat and reiterate their responses to the allegations contained in the First
 Count of the Complaint as if set forth herein at length.
- 2. To the extent the allegations of paragraph 2 of the Second Count of the Complaint are narrative and/or assert legal conclusions, no response is required thereto and the allegations are denied. To the extent the allegations purport to impute liability to Defendants, they are denied.

WHEREFORE, Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club), deny that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested in the Complaint, and request that the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice, and that Defendants be awarded attorneys' fees, costs of suit and such other relief as the Court deems just.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries and damages claimed are the result of the sole negligence of the Plaintiff.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries and damages claimed are the result of the contributory negligence of the Plaintiff, which negligence is greater than that of Defendants, or alternatively, Plaintiff's damages, if any, are reduced by the percentage of Plaintiff's comparative negligence and the Comparative Negligence Act, *N.J.S.A.* § 2A:15-5.1, *et seq.*

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries and damages claimed are the result of the negligence of third parties over which Defendants have no control.

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to set forth a cause of action upon which relief may be granted and Defendants reserve the right to move before or at the time of trial to dismiss same.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred or otherwise reduced by operation of the doctrine of avoidable consequences.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred or otherwise reduced by operation of the doctrine of mitigation of damages.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff assumed the risk and was fully cognizant of any and all circumstances surrounding the alleged incident.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants did not proximately cause any damage to Plaintiff.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants deny that they were negligent in any way.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants did not breach any duty owed to Plaintiff.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The alleged injuries and damages complained of by Plaintiff were due to unavoidable circumstances and causes beyond the control or fault of Defendants.

TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

At all times relevant, Defendants complied with all applicable laws, regulations and standards.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint is subject to dismissal for insufficient service of process on Defendants.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's injuries and damages, if any, were proximately caused by intervening, superseding causes, and not by Defendants' negligence.

FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants are entitled to a credit or set-off with respect to any collateral payments made to

Plaintiff for injuries allegedly incurred pursuant to N.J.S.A. § 2A:15-97, including but not limited

to, any medical bills or costs paid or reduced by health insurance coverage.

SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants reserve the right to amend their answer and/or assert additional defenses and/or

supplement, alter and/or change their answer upon revelation of more definite facts by Plaintiff in

completion of further discovery.

WHEREFORE, Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and

Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club), deny that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief

requested in the Complaint, and request that the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice, and that

Defendants be awarded attorneys' fees, costs of suit and such other relief as the Court deems just.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc.

(improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: February 1, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters, Esq.

JURY DEMAND

Take notice that Defendants hereby demands a trial by a jury as to all matters at issue.

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D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: February 1, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters
Nada M. Peters, Esq.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Take notice that pursuant to <u>R.</u> 4:5-1(c), Nada M. Peters, Esq. is hereby designated as trial counsel.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: February 1, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters
Nada M. Peters, Esq.

DEMAND FOR RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES

Pursuant to <u>R.</u> 4:17-1(b)(2), Defendants hereby demand that Plaintiff provide completed and responsive answers to Form A Interrogatories within the time frame set forth under the rules. Additionally, Defendants reserve their right to serve ten Supplemental Interrogatories.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: February 1, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters
Nada M. Peters, Esq.

DEMAND FOR STATEMENT OF DAMAGES

Pursuant to \underline{R} . 4:5-2, Defendants hereby demand that Plaintiff serve a Statement of Damages upon undersigned counsel within five (5) days hereof.

D'ARCAMBAL OUSLEY & CUYLER BURK, LLP

Attorneys for Defendants, Walmart, Inc. (improperly pled as Walmart Stores, Inc.) and Sam's East, Inc. (improperly pled as Sam's Club)

Dated: February 1, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters
Nada M. Peters, Esq.

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CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1(b)(2)

I hereby certify on this date that I know of no other action pending in any court or any

pending arbitration proceeding in which the subject matter of the present litigation is also in

dispute. I further certify that I know of no contemplated action or arbitration proceeding which

would involve the subject matter of the present litigation.

I hereby certify that I do not know of any non-party that should be joined in this action.

Dated: February 1, 2019 /s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters

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CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have caused the within First Amended Answer to be electronically filed through the Judiciary's ECourt application with the Superior Court, Middlesex County, New Jersey, and that a copy of this pleading has been served electronically upon the following counsel and a courtesy copy has also been submitted to counsel via First Class Mail:

Hector I. Rodriguez, Esq.
Law Offices of Hector I. Rodriguez
353 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08904
Phone: 732-828-1333
Attorney for Plaintiffs,
Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Menocal Reyes

Dated: February 1, 2019

/s/ Nada M. Peters

Nada M. Peters, Esq.

EXHIBIT D



LAW OFFICE OF HECTOR I. RODRIGUEZ, ESQ.

Attorneys at Law

Hector I. Rodriguez, Esq. Christine Klimczuk, Esq.

353 Livingston Avenue New Brunswick, NJ 08901 Office: (732) 828-1333 Fax: (732) 828-1495

Email: lawofficeofhectorirodriguez@gmail.com

Via Telefax (973)-734-3201 & First Class Mail

February 5, 2019

Nada M. Peters, Esq. D'Arcamba Ousley Cuyler Burk, LLP Four Century Drive, Suite 350 Parsippany, NJ 07054

RE: Bustillo Colindre et al. v. Walmart Stores, Inc., et al.

Docket No.:

MID-L-8410-18

Your File Number:

1408-003

Dear Ms. Peters:

As you are aware, this firm represents the Plaintiffs Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Menocal Reves in the above matter. Reference is made to your correspondence dated February 1, 2019. Pursuant to your request, enclosed please find Plaintiffs' Statement of Damages claimed.

Very truly yours. For the Firm,

CHRISTINE KLIMCZUK

/ck

Enclosure

LAW OFFICE OF HECTOR I. RODRIGUEZ

Christine Klimczuk, Esq. – Id. No.: 015531998

353 Livingston Avenue

New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901

(732) 828-1333

Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Felipe Bustillo Colindre

Lidia L. Menocal Reyes, H/W

FELIPE BUSTILLO COLINDRE and

LIDIA L. MENOCAL REYES, H/W,

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: MIDDLESEX COUNTY

: DOCKET NO.: MID-L-8410-18

Plaintiffs,

Civil Action

v.

WALMART STORES, INC., SAM'S CLUB, STATEMENT OF DAMAGES CLAIMED

JOHN DOES 1-10 (names being fictitious and unknown, and ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10 (names being fictitious and unknown), :

Defendants.

TO: Nada M. Peters, Esq.

D'Acambal Ousley & Cuyler Burk, LLP

Four Century Drive, Suite 350

Parsippany, NJ 07054

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, pursuant to \underline{R} . 4:5-2, the amount of damages claimed by

Plaintiffs Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Menocal Reyes against Walmart Stores, Inc. and

Sam's Club is in excess of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$ 500,000.00).

LAW OFFICE OF HECTOR I. RODRIGUEZ Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Felipe Bustillo Colindre and Lidia L. Memocal Reyes, H/W

By:

CHRISTINE KLIMCZUK

Dated: February 5, 2019